

press onward and upward, there is a bright future before you. Oh, may we all be able to sing, "We are on the way to Glory Land". I ask an interest in your prayers. During the meetings at "Quiet Dell", we were made to rejoice because of the presence and good help of our dear and much esteemed brother and co worker Elder Henry Wise of Parkersburg, W. Va. He stopped off several days on his way, to Jones Mills Westmorland Co., Pa., to work for the salvation of souls, and the comforting of God's people. We hope to hear a good report from Bro. Wise in the near future.

The BRETHREN EVANGELIST is bringing good news to its readers, and should be taken by every family in the Brotherhood, and extended from the rivers to the ends of the earth. This day is my fifty-seventh birthday anniversary, hence am fifty-eight years old to day. My spiritual birthday was June 20th, 1858. Was called to the office of deacon September, 1868. To the ministry June 20th, 1874. Advanced June 22nd, 1875. Ordained by Elders P. J. Brown and J. W. Beer March 15th, 1884. In taking a retrospective view of my past life I regret two things. 1st, that I did not enlist in the cause of Christ earlier in life. I lost much precious time that cannot be redeemed. And 2nd, that my Christian life has been so imperfect, but as Jacob of old was touched by the hand of God and made lame all his life long, so I have been limping along the pilgrimage over thirty-six years, and to-day I feel thankful to God that I am still on the "way".

May God bless his cause everywhere and keep us all in the "way to Glory Land", till life and its labors shall end. Then we shall meet in the sweet by-and-by on the evergreen shore.

J. B. WAMPLER.

#### FAIR PLAY.

DEAR BRETHREN: As I have never written for the church paper, I thought I would write to-day, as I cannot put in my time in any better way. I thought my subject, Fair Play, was a subject that I have never seen in the paper, so I will write, because we know that we do not always give fair play as we ought to. We can apply this to a good many things. Our neighbors, our friends, our brothers and sisters, both in the flesh and in the church, our pastors, at home both in our daily labors and our church work.

We know that it is a fact we are too negligent about this. For instance, take our home pastors who are here at work every Sunday. Well we have like spirits in our meetings sometimes. We say what is the matter when our church is not filled on Sunday? There are a good many reasons. Perhaps some are on the part of the pastor some on the church. And I think the greater portion is on the church. Some may think that it is the pastor's fault, because he does not get up the same warm spirit among the members after he revival as our revivalist who came and helped us. Yes, I say, help us dur-

ing our revivals. Perhaps we do not help him as much. I have heard and seen people that are good church members say before the revivals started up well we must make it a duty of each one to talk to the people when the preacher comes and all take hold and work hard and make this meeting a success; if we don't, we cannot expect anybody to join.

Our meeting will be just as we make it in revivals or any other time. Sometimes we work hard in revival services and after they are over we stay away and do not come to our meeting until one or two Sundays before our next revival then they will be seen on the front seats and be the first one to say amen. My dear friends this will not do; we must take hold and help our home preachers more and not stay away from your own services. Some go visiting or attend some other meeting. If your heart and soul is attached to the Lord and the church you belong to, why not work? My friends I want to be found at work for the Lord all the time. If I have faith in anything I will work to correspond with it; for faith without works is dead. Let our faith be a living faith, that is alive all the time, that we may be the cause of bringing many souls to Christ, that when we leave this world and come before the judgment bar of God, we may be able to say that we have made use of the talent he gave us.

Well, I must close for this time, and will try and write for our paper as often as I can.

J. E. MAST.

#### FROM KECKSBURG, PA.

I was called to Greensburg, Pa., to serve my country as a juror for a term of two weeks. I boarded at Sister Merrill's, the widow of our late lamented Nathaniel Merrill. We were very kindly treated while with them. I also thought while I was there what a wonderful mission work could be done in the city of Greensburg, county seat of Westmorland Co., Pa., and on the main line of the P. R. R. Brethren when in Greensburg inquire for the Merrill House on Maple Ave. I firmly believe we could build up a large church in Greensburg and why not go ahead and try it? I believe in city mission work. For example take Pittsburg and Philadelphia for mission work. Stop at Greensburg where the Gospel alone doctrine is not known. Let us pray to this end that there may be a church built up in Greensburg.

On Monday eve, Nov. 26 we were excused from duty until Friday Nov. 30, and we took the train and came home on Monday eve, Nov. 26, only to find our dear companion gone from home. She had received the sad intelligence that her father, John H. Stifler, at Holidaysburg, Pa., was at the point of death. So she boarded the train and had gone to the bedside as she thought of her father. But when she reached the door of her father's residence she no-

ticed the crape on the door and exclaimed, "my father is dead," which was the case. He had passed peacefully away on Saturday eve, Nov. 24, 1894, of neuralgia of the heart.

Your correspondent took the train on Tuesday at 3 30 P. M. for Greensburg again, and dispatched to wife to see if father was living yet. But soon the reply came back to inform me father was dead. I then boarded the train at Greensburg and arrived at Altoona and at midnight, Wednesday morning at 7 30 boarded the street car for Holidaysburg, which place was reached at 8 A. M. Father Stifler was laid to rest the same day at ten A. M. How little did we think on the 8th, of Sept. 1893, when we bid father good bye that it was the last time we would meet him and greet him here below. But the cold icy hand of death had come to separate the soul from the body. Dear father was laid in his casket and seemed only to be sleeping a gentle sleep. But when we placed our hand on his forehead it was cold and his voice was no more to be heard; it was silent and will be silent till we are permitted to clasp hands on the other shore, beyond this vale of tears where there will be no more parting, no more sorrows or shedding of tears. Mother Stifler had preceded him to the spirit world four years ago. Thus the family circle is now broken. Mother is gone and father is gone to meet dear mother. A family of twelve children survives him, viz: Rev. J. M. Stifler D. D., of Chester, Pa., teacher of the Exegesis of the New Testament in Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa., Rev. W. H. Stifler, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Mrs. Anna Mateer, of Stifler Station, Pa., Mrs. J. M. Ritter wife of Rev. J. M. Ritter, of Kecksburg Pa., John B. Stifler, of Holidaysburg, Pa., Mrs. W. E. Chilson, of Chicago, Ill., Mrs. Mary Mitchell, of Cresson, Pa., Mrs. W. T. Galloway, Homestead, Pa. Miss Elizabeth M. Stifler, who is engaged in the millinery store, Holidaysburg, Pa., Joseph K. Stifler, of Delray, Mich., Robert C. Stifler, of Stifler's Station, Pa., Rev. Lewis C. Stifler, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Father Stifler joined the German Baptist Brethren Church in May 1863, was baptized in the blue Juniatta, was called to office of Deacon in the fall of 1881 and served in this capacity till death. Thus the church has lost a faithful member and officer and the community a faithful citizen. But their loss is his eternal gain. In his younger days he served his country as Justice of the Peace, School Director, Constable, Assessor and various other offices of the county of Blair. He taught school for a number of years, was a sales caller for a number of years; he was one of the most important trustees of the Carson Valley graveyard, Blair Co., Pa., at his death. The children were all present except Rev. W. H. Stifler of Sioux Falls, S. D., Joseph K. of Delray Mich., and Mrs. W. E. Chilson of Chicago.

Father was laid to rest in the Car-

son Valley cemetery on Wednesday at 10 A. M., Nov. 28, 1894. Funeral sermon by J. W. Wilt, of Altoona. Text, Job xvi, 22. Aged 80 years, 7 months and 25 days. Father was anointed according to James. His aged sister Barbara Snyder of Johnstown was present at his funeral who is now 85 years of age.

On Monday Dec. 3, wife and I boarded the train at Holidaysburg for Johnstown. Stopped over night with Aunt Barbara Snyder. We were also at the home of our esteemed Bro. and Sister Hildebrand's and Bro. and Sister Benshoff's. On Tuesday morning we boarded the train again at Johnstown at 4 50 for Greensburg. Arriving at the latter place at 6 A. M., and at 9 45 boarded the train for Mammoth; arrived home same day at 2 P. M. Found all well as usual for which praise the Lord.

J. M. RITTER.

#### FROM ELKHART IND.

TO THE READERS OF THE EVANGELIST: The Elkhart city church is holding a successful series of meetings. So far, nine have accepted Christ, four by baptism, four by relation, and one to be baptized. The end is not yet. I will report further when we close.

D. S. GRIPE.

#### FROM HARRISONBURG, VA.

DEAR EVANGELIST: The Rockingham churches are moving along very smoothly now. All seem to be spiritually minded.

Christmas eve the pastor on returning from song service at Bethlehem, found his house full of big-hearted Progressives who had come to pound me with a fine suit of clothes, presented by Bethlehem church, and a full line of groceries and dry goods, etc., from Mt. Olive. Of course I was almost speechless at such a surprise.

May the Lord bless these dear people and may he help me to fully appreciate their kindness. Our Grand Jubilee singing at Bethlehem, conducted by Brother J. H. Hall proved to be a grand success. The new organ gives perfect satisfaction.

On New Year's eve the Sunday school at Bethlehem gave an entertainment that did great credit to the young folks. Brother Lee Hammer, the superintendent, was very careful in the selection of the literature and the whole entertainment was highly instructive as well as entertaining.

Jos. I. HALL.

#### FROM QUIET DELL, PA.

Brother J. B. Wampler of Blanco, Pa., came among us Dec. 15th, and preached the Word for us until Jan. 6th, when he started for his home. As the immediate result, four confessed Christ and were on Jan. 6th, baptized with him in baptism in our new baptistry which the brethren prepared for the occasion. One reclaimed and many more seemed almost persuaded. Meeting closed on account of the inclement weather. Brethren pray for us.

J. M. MURRAY.